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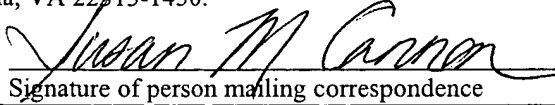
PATENT
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I hereby certify under 37 C.F.R. § 1.8(a) that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as **first class mail** with sufficient postage on the date indicated above and is addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Susan M. Cannon

Printed name of person mailing correspondence


Signature of person mailing correspondence

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: H. Robert Horvitz et al. Art Unit: 1632
Serial No.: 09/577,897 Examiner: Ram R. Shukla
Filed: May 24, 2000 Customer No.: 21559
Title: CLONING SEQUENCING AND CHARACTERIZATION OF TWO
CELL DEATH GENES AND USES THEREOF

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.114

Applicants hereby request continued examination of the above-captioned application under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114. The application is a non-provisional application that was filed on or after June 8, 1995.

This request is being submitted after the mailing of a final Office Action and after the filing of a Notice of Appeal, and thus is to be considered as a request to withdraw the appeal and to reopen prosecution. For the submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114,

Applicants request entry of the amendment set forth in Applicants' reply to final Office

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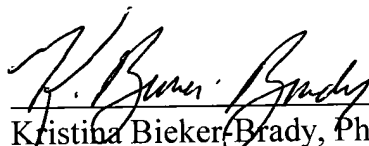
Action submitted herewith, which addresses all issues raised in the final Office Action mailed on December 22, 2003.

Enclosed is a check for \$395 in payment of the fee, as a small entity, required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) for this Request for Continued Examination. Also enclosed are a petition to extend the period for replying, pursuant to the Notice of Appeal received by the Office on June 23, 2004, for four months, to and including December 23, 2004 and a check for the required fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a).

If there are any additional charges or any credits, please apply them to Deposit Account No. 03-2095.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: December 21, 2004



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